

TABLE OF CONTENTS**CHAPTER 89-200 MINOR PARENT**

	Section
Minor Parent Requirement.....	89-201
Requirement1
Exemption2
Referral.....	.3
Payee4
Senior Parent Income5
Minor Meets Exemption6

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CHAPTER 89-200 MINOR PARENT

89-201 MINOR PARENT REQUIREMENT

89-201

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| .1 | Requirement | A never-married minor, under the age of 18 years old, who is pregnant or who has a dependent child(ren) in his/her care shall, as an additional condition of eligibility, reside with: |
| .11 | Senior Parent | A senior parent; or |
| .12 | Legal Guardian | A legal guardian; or |
| .13 | Adult Relative | An individual who meets the degree of relatedness criteria specified in Section 82-808.1 and is age 18 years or older; or |
| .14 | Licensed Home | A state licensed adult-supervised supportive living arrangement which includes: |
| | .141 | A group home; or |
| | .142 | A maternity home. |
| .2 | Exemption | The minor parent and his/her dependent child(ren) shall be exempt from the minor parent requirement when any of the following conditions exist: |
| .21 | Deceased | The minor parent has no parent or legal guardian who is living; |
| .22 | Whereabouts Unknown | The minor parent has no parent or legal guardian whose whereabouts are known; |
| .23 | Not Allowed To Live In Home | The minor parent has no parent or legal guardian who will allow the minor parent to live in his/her home; |
| .24 | Health/Safety | It is determined by a child protective services worker that the physical or emotional health or safety of the minor parent or his/her dependent child(ren) would be jeopardized if the minor parent and his/her dependent child(ren) lived in the home with the minor's parent, legal guardian, or other adult relative; |

89-201	MINOR PARENT REQUIREMENT (Continued)	89-201
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| .25 | Live Apart for 12 Months | The minor parent has lived apart from the minor's parent or legal guardian for a period of at least twelve months prior to the month of: |
| .251 | | The youngest dependent child's birth; or |
| .252 | | Application for aid. |
| .26 | Emancipation | The minor parent is legally emancipated. |
| .3 | Referral | A referral to county Child Welfare Services shall be made when the minor parent meets any of the exemptions pursuant to Section 89-201.21 through .25. |
| .31 | Discontinuance of Minor Parent | If the minor parent is determined to be ineligible for AFDC, the eligibility worker shall notify CWS of the minor's discontinuance. |
| .4 | Payee | Unless the minor parent is exempt from the Minor Parent Requirement, the county shall pay aid on behalf of the minor parent to the adult living in the home or to the group/maternity home pursuant to Section 89-201.1. |
| .41 | Adult Refusal | If the adult living in the home refuses to act as payee on behalf of the minor parent, the minor parent may be the payee. |
| .42 | Minor Parent Refusal or Failure to Cooperate | If the minor parent refuses or fails to cooperate in obtaining verification of the adult's consent or refusal to act as payee on his/her behalf, the minor parent's AU is ineligible for AFDC. |
| .43 | Determination That Minor Parent Should Be Payee | Whenever it is determined to be in the best interest of the minor parent and his/her child(ren), the minor parent may be the payee of his/her case instead of the adult living in the home with the minor parent. |

89-201	MINOR PARENT REQUIREMENT (Continued)	89-201
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| .44 | Documentation | The county shall document the following: |
| .441 | | The payee understands that these AFDC payments are for the support of the minor parent and his/her dependent child(ren); and |
| .442 | | The individual's agreement to act as payee; or |
| .443 | | The individual's refusal to act as payee. |
| .444 | | The minor parent's refusal or failure to cooperate in obtaining verification of the adult's consent or refusal to act as payee. |
| .445 | | The reason(s) or factors leading to the determination that it is in the best interest of the minor parent and his/her child(ren) for the minor parent to be the payee for his/her case rather than the adult living in the home. |

HANDBOOK BEGINS HERE

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| .45 | Example 1: | <p>A minor parent applies for AFDC for herself and her dependent child. The minor states her parents are divorced and living at different residences. The minor states that her mother forced her and her child out of the home and will not allow them to return. Further, the minor states that she has not lived with her father (the other senior parent) for over 12 months.</p> <p>The minor provides a statement from her mother that the minor had been living with her for the past two years, but that she will no longer allow the minor and child to live with her. Since the minor meets the exemption for each senior parent, the county will: (1) not apply the Minor Parent Requirement, and (2) grant aid to the minor parent and/or her child if they are otherwise eligible, and (3) refer the case to CWS for Minor Parent services.</p> |
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HANDBOOK CONTINUES

89-201 (Cont.)	DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS APDP AND CWPDP	Regulations
89-201	MINOR PARENT REQUIREMENT (Continued)	89-201

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

.46 Example 2:

A minor parent applies for AFDC for herself and her dependent child. The minor parent states that she has been living with a friend for the past three months.

The minor parent states that her mother forced her to move out of the home and will not allow her to return. The minor's friend told her that she needs to find another place to live by the end of the month.

The minor parent is unable to obtain a statement from her mother confirming that she is not allowed to return to the parent's home. In a collateral call to the minor parent's mother, the mother indicates that her daughter ran away from home three months ago and refuses to return. The mother indicates that she is willing to allow the minor parent and her dependent child to live with her. The minor parent then states that she fears for her safety and the safety of her dependent child if she returns to her mother's home. A child protective services worker completes an evaluation of the mother's home and determines that there would be no risk to either the minor parent or her dependent child if they were to live with the minor's parent.

Since the minor parent does not meet any of the exemption criteria, she and her dependent child must live with her parent, legal guardian, or other adult relative to be eligible for AFDC. The minor parent refuses to return to her mother's home and no other adult relative will allow her to live with him/her. The minor parent and child are not eligible for AFDC and the application is denied.

HANDBOOK ENDS HERE

89-201	MINOR PARENT REQUIREMENT (Continued)	89-201
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.5	Senior Parent Income	In cases where the minor parent lives with his/her parent(s), the income and needs of the senior parent(s) shall be considered. Eligibility and grant amount for senior parent/minor parent cases shall be determined in accordance with Sections 44-133.5, 44-207 and 44-315 as appropriate, based on the specific circumstances of the case.
.51	Senior Parent/Minor Parent Eligibility and Grant Amount	When considering income of the senior parent(s), pursuant to Sections 44-133.5, 44-207 and 44-315, and that income does not result in ineligibility of the minor and his/her child(ren), and:
.511	Minor in Own AU	The minor parent is eligible to be included in his/her own AU (See Section 82-808), or
.512	Eligible Minor in AU of Senior Parent(s)	The minor parent is eligible to be included in the AU of the senior parent(s) (See Section 82-808), then
.513	Grant Amount	The income of the senior parent(s) shall be considered and the actual grant amount calculated pursuant to Section 44-315.3.

HANDBOOK BEGINS HERE

(a)	Handbook Section 89-201.513(a)(MR) shall become inoperative and Handbook Section 89-201.513(a)(QR) shall become operative in a county on the date QR/PB becomes effective in that county, pursuant to the Director's QR/PB Declaration.
(MR) Example: Eligible Minor Parent in own AU	The persons residing together are the senior parent, her minor daughter (minor parent) and her minor daughter's child. The senior parent is not in the AU. The senior parent earns \$1,025 per month. The minor parent has no income. The family resides in Region 1 and is nonexempt.

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

The eligibility/grant computation is as follows:

\$1,025	Gross Family Earned Income
<u>- 225</u>	Income Disregard
\$ 800	
<u>- 400</u>	50% Earned Income Disregard
\$ 400	Net Nonexempt Income
\$ 679	MAP for an AU of 3
<u>- 400</u>	Total Net Nonexempt Income
\$ 279	Potential Grant
\$ 548	MAP for an AU of 2
\$ 279	Actual Grant Amount (lesser of potential grant or AU MAP)

(QR) Example:
Eligible Minor
Parent in own AU

The persons residing together are the senior parent, her minor daughter (minor parent) and her minor daughter's child. The senior parent is not in the AU. The senior parent earns \$1,025 per month. The minor parent has no income. The family resides in Region 1 and is nonexempt.

The eligibility/grant computation is as follows:

\$1,025	Reasonably Anticipated Family Earned Income
<u>- 225</u>	Income Disregard
\$ 800	
<u>- 400</u>	50% Earned Income Disregard
\$ 400	Average Net Nonexempt Income
\$ 704	MAP for an AU of Three
<u>- 400</u>	Total Averaged Net Nonexempt Income
\$ 304	Potential Grant
\$ 568	MAP for an AU of Two
\$ 304	Actual Grant Amount (lesser of potential grant or AU MAP)

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

(b)	Handbook Section 89-201.513(b)(MR) shall become inoperative and Handbook Section 89-201.513(b)(QR) shall become operative in a county on the date QR/PB becomes effective in that county, pursuant to the Director's QR/PB Declaration.
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(MR) Example: Eligible Minor Parent in AU of Senior Parent(s)	Minor parent lives with both her parents. The senior mom has care and control of the minor parent's child and therefore, the minor parent can be considered an eligible child in this case. Aid was requested for the minor parent, her child and both senior parents so they are all in the AU. One senior parent earns \$900 per month. The other senior parent earns \$400 per month and receives \$125 in State Disability Insurance benefits. The minor parent has no income. The AU is nonexempt and resides in Region 1.
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The eligibility/grant computation is as follows:

\$ 125	Disability-Based Unearned Income		
- 225	Income Disregard		
- \$ 100	Net Nonexempt Disability-Based Income		
\$1,300	Gross Family Earned Income		
- 100	Remainder of \$225 Disregard		
\$1,200			
- 600	50% Earned Income Disregard		
\$ 600	Net Nonexempt Earned Income		
+ 0	Other Nonexempt Unearned Income		
\$ 600	Total Net Nonexempt Income		
\$ 809	MAP for an AU of 4		
- 600	Net Nonexempt Income		
\$ 209	Grant Amount		

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

HANDBOOK CONTINUES

(QR) Example:
Eligible Minor
Parent in AU
of Senior Parent(s)

Minor parent lives with both her parents. The senior parents are in the AU with the minor parent and the minor's child. One senior parent earns \$900 per month. The other senior parent earns \$400 per month and receives \$125 in State Disability Insurance benefits. The minor parent has no income. The AU is nonexempt and resides in Region 1.

The eligibility/grant computation is as follows:

\$ 125	Reasonably Anticipated Monthly Disability-Based Unearned Income
- 225	Income Disregard
- \$ 100	Net Nonexempt Disability-Based Income
\$1,300	Reasonably Anticipated Monthly Family Earned Income
- 100	Remainder of \$225 Disregard
\$1,200	
- 600	50% Earned Income Disregard
\$ 600	Averaged Net Nonexempt Earned Income
+ 0	Other Nonexempt Unearned Income
\$ 600	Total Net Nonexempt Income
\$ 839	MAP for an AU of Four
- 600	Net Nonexempt Income
\$ 239	Grant Amount

HANDBOOK ENDS HERE

.6 Minor Meets Exemption

A minor who does not reside with a senior parent shall have his/her aid payment calculated based on existing income regulations.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 11008.14, 11254 (Ch. 1022, Stats. 2002), 11451.5, and 16506(d), Welfare and Institutions Code and 42 USCA 608(a)(5).

TABLE OF CONTENTS**CHAPTER 89-300 WORK INCENTIVES**

Chapter 89-300 title repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

	Section
Elimination of Time Limitations for 30 and 1/3 Earned Income	
Disregard and Elimination of the 100-Hour Limit.....	89-301

Renumbered to Section 89-105 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

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CHAPTER 89-300 WORK INCENTIVES

Chapter 89-300 title repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

89-301	ELIMINATION OF TIME LIMITATIONS FOR 30 AND 1/3 EARNED INCOME DISREGARD AND ELIMINATION OF THE 100-HOUR LIMIT	89-301
---------------	---	---------------

Renumbered to Section 89-105 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS**CHAPTER 89-400 AID PAYMENTS**

Chapter 89-400 title repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

	Section
Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) Level and MAP Restriction.....	89-402
Renumbered to Section 89-110 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.	

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CHAPTER 89-400 AID PAYMENTS

Chapter 89-400 title repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

89-402 MAXIMUM AID PAYMENT (MAP) LEVEL AND MAP RESTRICTION 89-402

Renumbered to Section 89-110 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS**CHAPTER 89-500 PROPERTY LIMITS FOR RECIPIENTS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA
WORK PAYS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**

Chapter 89-500 title repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

	Section
Increased Property Limits for Recipients.....	89-501
Renumbered to Section 89-115 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.	
\$2,000 Property Limit for Recipients	89-502
Renumbered to Section 89-120 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.	
Increased Motor Vehicle Limit for Recipients	89-503
Renumbered to Section 89-125 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.	
Restricted Accounts for Recipients.....	89-504
Renumbered to Section 89-130 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.	

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**CHAPTER 89-500 PROPERTY LIMITS FOR RECIPIENTS UNDER THE CALIFORNIA
WORK PAYS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**

Chapter 89-500 title repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

89-501 INCREASED PROPERTY LIMITS FOR RECIPIENTS 89-501

Renumbered to Section 89-115 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

89-502 \$2,000 PROPERTY LIMIT FOR RECIPIENTS 89-502

Renumbered to Section 89-120 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

89-503 INCREASED MOTOR VEHICLE LIMIT FOR RECIPIENTS 89-503

Renumbered to Section 89-125 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

89-504 RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS FOR RECIPIENTS 89-504

Renumbered to Section 89-130 by Manual Letter No. EAS-95-06, effective 7/9/95.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 89-700 CALIFORNIA ALTERNATIVE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAAP)

| Entire Chapter repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

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CHAPTER 89-700 CALIFORNIA ALTERNATIVE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAAP)

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-701 THE CALIFORNIA ALTERNATIVE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAAP) 89-701

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-705 DEFINITIONS 89-705

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-710 PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY 89-710

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-715 PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY 89-715

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-720 CHILD CARE PAYMENT COMPUTATION 89-720

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-725 CAAP PARTICIPANT'S RESPONSIBILITIES 89-725

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-730 COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES 89-730

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

89-735 UNDERPAYMENTS AND OVERPAYMENTS 89-735

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

| Repealed by Manual Letter No. EAS-98-05, effective 12/29/98.

**ELIGIBILITY AND ASSISTANCE STANDARDS
KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter

DIVISION 90 KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM

Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) Program.....	90-100
--	--------

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KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM
KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (KIN-GAP) PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 90-100 KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (KIN-GAP) PROGRAM

	Section
Definitions and Forms.....	90-101
Non-CalWORKs Requirements.....	90-105
CalWORKs Requirements.....	90-110
Payment	90-115

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90-101 DEFINITIONS AND FORMS

90-101

- .1 The definitions in Sections 80-301 and 45-101 apply to the Kin-GAP Program. The following definitions also apply, and for the Kin-GAP Program only, supersede those in Sections 80-301 and 45-101, where dual or conflicting definitions exist:
- (a) (1) Approved home of a relative means the home of a relative which has been determined to be suited to the needs of the child by a social worker as specified in Section 45-101(a)(2)(A).
 - (b) Reserved
 - (c) Reserved
 - (d) Reserved
 - (e) Reserved
 - (f) Reserved
 - (g) Reserved
 - (h) Reserved
 - (i) Reserved
 - (j) Reserved
 - (k) Reserved
 - (l) (1) Legal guardian means the individual appointed guardian of the child by a California court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 366.26.
 - (m) Reserved
 - (n) Reserved
 - (o) Reserved
 - (p) (1) A Parent means the natural or adoptive father or mother, whether married or unmarried.
 - (q) Reserved

90-101 DEFINITIONS AND FORMS (Continued)

90-101

(r) (1) A relative means a person related to the child by blood, marriage, or adoption who is within the fifth degree of kinship to the child by virtue of being one of the following:

(A) The father, mother, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, first cousin once removed, nephew, niece, or any such person of a preceding generation denoted by the prefixes grand-, great-, or great-great, or great-great-great.

(B) The stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, or stepsister.

(C) The spouse of any person named in Section 90-101(r)(1)(A) or (B) above, even after the marriage has been terminated by death or dissolution.

(s) Reserved

(t) Reserved

(u) Reserved

(v) Reserved

(x) Reserved

(y) Reserved

(z) Reserved

.2 The forms in Section 80-310 apply to the Kin-GAP Program. The following forms also apply, and for the Kin-GAP Program only, supersede those in Section 80-310 where they serve the same function:

(a) Reserved

(b) Reserved

(c) Reserved

(d) Reserved

(e) Reserved

(f) Reserved

90-101 DEFINITIONS AND FORMS (Continued)

90-101

- (g) Reserved
- (h) Reserved
- (i) Reserved
- (j) Reserved
- (k)
 - (l) KG 1 The Mutual Agreement for 18-Year Olds is used to obtain an 18-year old child's agreement to remain in the Kin-GAP Program after his/her 18th birthday, in accordance with the Age requirements of Section 42-101.
 - (2) KG 2 The "Statement of Facts Supporting Eligibility for Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) Program" (Rev. 11/99) is used to collect information necessary to determine Kin-GAP eligibility at the time of application and redetermination.
 - (3) KG 2-A "Rights, Responsibilities and Other Important Information" is used to inform relative caretakers of their rights and responsibilities under the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) Program (Rev. 12/99)
 - (4) Repealed by CDSS Manual Letter No. EAS-00-12, effective 12/21/00.
- (l) Reserved
- (m) Reserved
- (n) Reserved
- (o) Reserved
- (p) Reserved
- (q) Reserved
- (r) Reserved

KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM

90-101

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| (s) | (l) | SOC 369 | The “Agency-Relative Guardianship Disclosure” (Rev. 12/99) is used to inform relative foster parents of the funding options available should they choose to take legal guardianship of their related foster child. |
| (t) | | Reserved | |
| (u) | | Reserved | |
| (v) | | Reserved | |
| (x) | | Reserved | |
| (y) | | Reserved | |
| (z) | | Reserved | |

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553, 10554, 10604, and 11369, Welfare and Institutions Code.
Reference: Sections 366.26, 11054, and 11362, Welfare and Institutions Code.

90-105

.1 Placement Requirements

.11 Eligible Facility

- .111 In order to be eligible for Kin-GAP, the child must be living in the approved home of a relative.
- .112 For purposes of Kin-GAP, the home must have been approved by the county, but the approval may occur prior to the child's transfer to the Kin-GAP Program, and need not be reassessed after the child transfers from CalWORKs or AFDC-FC to Kin-GAP.

.12 Durational Requirements

- .121 The child must have lived in the same relative's home for at least 12 consecutive months before the child is eligible for Kin-GAP payments.

.13 Guardianship/Dependency

- .131 The child must be in a court ordered guardianship pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 366.26.

90-105 NON-CALWORKS REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

90-105

.132 The child's dependency must be dismissed after January 1, 2000.

| .2 County of Responsibility

| .21 The county of responsibility for a child receiving a Kin-GAP payment is the county which had legal custody of the child as required in Section 40-125.8 immediately prior to the dismissal of the custody court order and establishment of the legal guardianship by the court.

| .3 Assistance Unit Composition

| .31 Each Kin-GAP child shall constitute his/her own assistance unit (AU) of one. No other person, including siblings, shall be in the same AU with the Kin-GAP child.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553, 10554, and 11369, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 366.26, 366.3, 11361, 11362, 11363, and 11465, Welfare and Institutions Code.

90-110 CALWORKS REQUIREMENTS

90-110

.1 The following CalWORKs regulations shall apply to children receiving Kin-GAP benefits:

(a) The reception and application requirements of Sections 40-101 through 40-117 and 40-119 through 40-121, Sections 40-125.9 and 40-126 through 40-129, Sections 40-157 through 40-181.216, Sections 40-181.25 through 40-181.26, Sections 40-181.4 through 40-183, Sections 40-187 through 40-190, and Section 40-197.

| (b) The age requirements of Section 42-100.

90-110 CALWORKS REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

90-110

- | (c) The property requirements of Section 42-200.
 - | (1) For purposes of determining property eligibility, children in the Kin-GAP Program shall be treated in all aspects as a recipient, not as an applicant.
- | (d) The residence requirements of Sections 42-400 through 42-424.
- | (e) The citizenship, alienage and language fluency requirements of Sections 42-430 through 42-435.
- | (f) The responsible relative requirements of Sections 43-100 through 43-205.
- | (g) The income requirements of Sections 44-100 through 44-133, and Section 44-207.
 - | (1) For purposes of determining income eligibility, children in the Kin-GAP Program shall be treated in all aspects as a recipient, not as an applicant.
- | (h) The aid payment requirements of Sections 44-300 through 44-305, Sections 44-313; Sections 44-316 and 44-317, Sections 44-319 through 44-353.
- | (i) The Records requirements of Section 48-000.
- | (j) The Child Support Enforcement Program requirements of Sections 82-502 through 82-520.
- | (k) The Temporary Absence requirements of Section 82-812.
- | (l) The excluded persons requirements of Section 82-832.
- | (m) The Restricted Accounts requirements of Section 89-130.

.2 Methods of Periodic Determination of Eligibility

- | .21 Regulations governing the method of initial determination also govern all continuing and periodic determinations. (See Section 40-157.)

90-110	CALWORKS REQUIREMENTS (Continued)	90-110
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- .22 The recipient's statements or the statements of his/her guardian or any other person acting for him/her and completing the Statement of Facts, together with information obtained from all other sources, shall be assessed in the light of facts previously known and in relation to potentials for change in eligibility status or amount of grant.

| .3 Repealed by CDSS Manual Letter No. EAS-00-12, effective 12/21/00.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553, 10554, and 11369, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Section 11367, Welfare and Institutions Code.

90-115	PAYMENT	90-115
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.1 Need Standard

The Kin-GAP rate, as determined in Chapter 11-300, shall constitute the need standard for a child receiving Kin-GAP. The child's net-nonexempt income as determined in Chapter 44-100 shall not exceed the need standard. Income received by the child's parents, legal guardians or relatives shall not be used to determine the Kin-GAP aid payment.

.2 Infant Supplement

.21 An infant supplement shall be paid in addition to a minor parent's Kin-GAP payment for the care and supervision of a child living with his/her minor parent in the same eligible facility when the minor parent is eligible for Kin-GAP.

.22 A child living with his/her Kin-GAP eligible minor parent in the same eligible facility does not need a separate eligibility determination. The eligibility for the infant supplement is based on the minor parent's Kin-GAP eligibility determination.

.23 The infant supplement amount shall be determined pursuant to Section 11-415.12.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553, 10554, and 11369, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Section 11465, Welfare and Institutions Code.

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**KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM
SUPPORTIVE TRANSITIONAL EMANCIPATION PROGRAM (STEP)**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| CHAPTER 90-200 SUPPORTIVE TRANSITIONAL EMANCIPATION PROGRAM (STEP)

	Section
Step Purpose.....	90-200
Definitions	90-205
Step Eligibility Requirements	90-210
County Responsibilities	90-215
Step Rates	90-220

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90-200	STEP PURPOSE	90-200
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- | | |
|----|--|
| .1 | The purpose of the Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program (STEP) is to provide financial assistance for those youth who have emancipated from the Foster Care system and are in need of financial assistance. |
| .2 | In administering the regulations in Chapter 90-200, the county must comply with all civil rights laws, and the rules, and regulations of Division 21. This provision also applies to contractors and subcontractors performing any and all county functions. |

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553, and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Section 11403.1, Welfare and Institutions Code.

90-205	DEFINITIONS	90-205
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The following definitions shall apply to the terms used in the STEP Program:

(a) through (c) (Reserved)

(d) (1) Dependent means a child who has been adjudged a dependent child of the court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 300.

(e) through (k) (Reserved)

(l) (1) Legal Guardian means the individual appointed permanent or temporary guardian of the person or of the person and estate of a child by a California court pursuant to Probate Code Section 1514 or 2250, if guardianship was established prior to January 1, 1984; or Welfare and Institutions Code Section 360, or 366.26.

(m) through (q) (Reserved)

(r) (1) Relinquishment means that the child has been given up for adoption by one or both parents to a licensed public or private adoption agency or to a district adoptions office of the Department.

(s) (1) Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program – Transitional Independent Living Plan (STEP - TILP) (STEP 8, Rev. 8/02) means the document designed by the Department that outlines specific skills, education or training goals needed to facilitate a successful transition to adulthood, mutually agreed upon by eligible 18 to 21 year old emancipated foster/probation youth and the county welfare or probation department or the Independent Living Coordinator. The document will include the specific tasks youth and other relevant parties will complete in order to achieve these goals, agreed upon timelines, outcomes, and identify all individuals responsible for assisting in completion of the plan.

(t) (1) Termination of Parental Rights means that the rights of one or both parents have been involuntarily terminated as the result of an order of the court issued under Family Code Section 7800 et seq., Family Code Section 7660 et seq., or Welfare and Institutions Code Section 366.26.

(u) (Reserved)

(v) (1) Voluntary Placement means an out-of-home placement of a child by (1) the county welfare department after the parents or guardians have requested the assistance of the county welfare department and have signed a voluntary placement agreement; or (2) the county welfare department, a licensed public or private adoption agency, or the Department acting as an adoption agency, after the parents have requested the assistance of either the county welfare department, the licensed public or private agency, or the Department acting as an adoption agency for the purpose of adoption planning, and have signed a voluntary placement agreement.

90-205	DEFINITIONS (Continued)	90-205
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(w)	(1)	Ward means a child who has been adjudged a ward of the court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 601 or 602.
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(x) through (z)	(Reserved)
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NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 300, 601, 602, and 11403.1(b)(1), Welfare and Institutions Code.
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90-210	STEP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	90-210
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In order to be eligible for a STEP payment, the youth shall meet the following eligibility criteria:

.1 Age Requirement

.11 A youth meets the minimum age requirement for STEP on his or her 18th birthday. Eligibility for STEP ceases the day before the youth's 21st birthday.

.2 Emancipation from Foster Care or the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment (Kin-GAP) Program

.21 The applicant must have been receiving a Kin-GAP Payment on their 18th birthday; or

.22 The applicant must have been in Foster Care on the day before their 18th birthday and:

.221 The applicant was a court dependent; or

.222 The applicant was in a Foster Care placement pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement; or

.223 The parental rights of the parent(s) of the applicant were either relinquished or terminated involuntarily and the applicant was in a Foster Care placement; or

.224 The applicant was a ward of the court and receiving an Aid to Families with Dependent Children – Foster Care payment; or

.225 The applicant was the ward of a legal guardian and receiving a State Aid to Families with Dependent Children - Foster Care payment.

HANDBOOK BEGINS HERE

.23 It is important to note that in most instances the funding source while the youth was in Foster Care does not affect the applicant's eligibility for STEP; so long as the applicant meets one of the conditions in Sections 90-210.221 through .223 above, the applicant may be eligible. For example, an applicant who was a dependent of the court and receiving a CalWORKs payment, an SSI/SSP payment, or county only funding, may be eligible to participate in STEP.

HANDBOOK ENDS HERE

90-210	STEP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (Continued)	90-210
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.3	Supportive Transitional Emancipation Program - Transitional Independent Living Plan (STEP - TILP) (STEP 8, Rev. 8/02)	
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.31	A STEP - TILP must be in place for the youth which includes educational, vocational, or other goals related to self-sufficiency.	
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.32	The youth must be participating in the activities identified in the STEP - TILP.	
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.4	Participating County	
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.41	The youth must have emancipated, as defined in Section 90-210.2, from a county which is participating in the STEP. If the county is not participating in the STEP, the youth is ineligible for a STEP payment.	
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NOTE:	Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 300, 601, 602, 11363, 11401, 11403.1(a)(3), and (b), Welfare and Institutions Code.	
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90-215	COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES	90-215
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| .1 | County with Payment Responsibility | |
| .11 | The county which had payment responsibility for the Foster Care or Kin-GAP child prior to emancipation shall have payment responsibility for the STEP payment if that county is participating in the STEP Program. | |
| .2 | County Responsibilities | |
| .21 | The county with payment responsibility shall process the youth's application. | |
| .22 | The county with payment responsibility shall prepare a STEP - TILP (STEP 8, Rev. 8/02) for each STEP youth and work with the youth to attain the goals identified in the STEP - TILP. | |
| .23 | A redetermination of all of the STEP youth's circumstances which are subject to change shall be completed annually. | |
| .231 | The county worker shall review the youth's STEP - TILP annually. Once the county worker has reviewed the STEP - TILP and determined that the youth is continuing to participate in the STEP - TILP as required in Section 90-210.32, the county worker will forward the STEP 2 – Referral, Transmittal, and Communication Form (STEP 2, Rev. 7/02) to the eligibility worker. | |
| .232 | The eligibility worker shall annually review the youth's age, placement type, STEP - TILP status, and any other eligibility factors subject to change. | |
| .3 | Optional Program | |
| .31 | Participation | |
| | Participation in the STEP Program is at county option. Counties who wish to participate in the STEP Program shall file a Letter of Intent with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) no later than April 1 st of each year. | |
| .32 | Program Termination | |
| .321 | Notification | |
| | Once a county has chosen to participate, it may also choose to discontinue participation. Once a county decides to discontinue STEP, they must notify CDSS 90 days prior to the proposed termination date of the county program. | |

90-215	COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES (Continued)	90-215
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.322 Youth Currently Being Served

Once a county has notified CDSS of its discontinuance of the STEP Program as required in Section 90-215.321, that county must continue to serve those youth currently participating in STEP consistent with the provisions of his or her STEP - TILP or until they are no longer age eligible for the program. The county is not required to serve any new youth.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 10554, 11403.1(a)(3), (b)(2), (b)(4), (c), (g), and (g)(1), Welfare and Institutions Code.

90-220	STEP RATES	90-220
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.1 Counties shall determine STEP rates in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11403.1(e).

HANDBOOK BEGINS HERE

.11 The STEP rate effective July 1, 2001, is \$597. (The STEP rate is the equivalent of the AFDC-FC rate for the 15 to 19 year-old age group.)

HANDBOOK ENDS HERE

.2 STEP payments shall be delivered in one amount no later than the fifth of the month and shall be paid on a prospective basis.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 10553 and 10554, Welfare and Institutions Code. Reference: Sections 10554 and 11403.1(e), Welfare and Institutions Code.